



Economic and Social Council

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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Seventh session

New York, 21 April-2 May 2008

Items 8, 9 and 10 of the provisional agenda*

Ongoing priorities and themes and follow-up

Future work of the Permanent Forum, including emerging issues

Draft agenda for the eighth session of the Permanent Forum

Ongoing priorities and themes, future work and draft decisions of the Permanent Forum

I. Ongoing priorities and themes

A. Indigenous children and youth

1. The Permanent Forum welcomes the recognition by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) of the valuable contributions indigenous children and youth can make in their local communities to ensure the sustainability of climate change adaptation and mitigation plans. The Forum urges the Fund to continue to raise awareness of the impact of climate change on indigenous children and youth and requests that it ensure the effective participation of indigenous youth in the discussions on and solutions to environmental issues in accordance with article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

2. The Permanent Forum expresses its appreciation to the Indigenous Youth Caucus and calls for its continued, effective participation in the sessions of the Forum, as well as in other decision-making processes concerning indigenous peoples' rights. The Forum requests its secretariat and the United Nations Youth Unit in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to continue facilitating the involvement of the Youth Caucus in its annual sessions.

* E/C.19/2008/L.



B. Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

3. The Permanent Forum welcomes as a major achievement of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

4. The Permanent Forum also welcomes the recent adoption of the United Nations Development Group Guidelines for Indigenous Peoples' Issues, which will bring the United Nations normative framework on indigenous peoples to the field level and contribute to the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Decade as well as of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Forum encourages the United Nations system to support the Guidelines with a programme of action and calls upon the donor community to provide resources to that effect. The Forum also calls upon the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues to review and revise the Guidelines in light of the adoption of the Declaration.

5. The Permanent Forum notes the valuable work carried out by indigenous communities and organizations thanks to the support of the trust fund in support of the Second International Decade and expresses its deep appreciation to the States that have contributed to the fund. However, the Forum deplores the fact that despite increasing project proposals, the funds available for grants have been diminishing. The Forum therefore strongly appeals to all States, the United Nations system and foundations and other donors to make generous contributions to the trust fund in support of the Second International Decade.

6. The Permanent Forum takes note of the declaration of the recent International Indigenous Women's Forum, held in Lima from 13 to 16 April 2008, and recommends that United Nations agencies, donors and States show their support and cooperation for the next International Indigenous Women's Forum, to be held in Colombia in 2011.

II. Future work of the Permanent Forum

7. The Permanent Forum welcomes the establishment in Bolivia in 2006 of the National Council for Dialogue among indigenous peoples and the United Nations system. The Forum notes that the work of the consultative group is consistent with the mandate of the Forum and therefore recommends that this good example be replicated in other countries, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

8. The Permanent Forum recommends that United Nations country teams involve members of the Forum in dialogue processes with indigenous peoples.

9. The Permanent Forum notes the proposed Celebrate Life through Sports and Culture within the World Indigenous Nations (WIN) Games and Sports, to be held in Winnipeg, Canada, in August 2012. The Forum encourages indigenous peoples, nations and Member States to support the continuing development of sports, traditional games and culture.

10. The Permanent Forum welcomes the report on the International Workshop on Perspectives of Relationships between Indigenous Peoples and Industrial Corporations (E/C.19/2008/5/Add.6), organized jointly by the Administration of the

Yamalo-Nenets Autonomous Region, the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East and the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, with support from the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation, held in Salekhard, Russian Federation, on 2 and 3 July 2007, and calls upon States to fully support and accept the recommendations contained in the report.

11. The Permanent Forum decides to appoint Carlos Maman Condori, Elisa Canqui Mollo and Pavel Sulyandziga, members of the Forum, as special rapporteurs to conduct a study, without financial implications, on indigenous peoples and corporations. The study will examine the existing mechanisms and practices, review policies on indigenous peoples, examine good practices and submit a report to the Forum at its eighth session in 2009. The Forum calls upon indigenous peoples' representatives, States, corporations, international financial institutions and the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Compact, to engage in active cooperation with the special rapporteurs.

12. With regard to paragraph 139 of the report of the Permanent Forum on its sixth session (E/2007/43), the Forum calls upon Governments, indigenous peoples organizations, regional administrations and local self-governance organs of the countries of the Arctic region to take an active part in the discussion on the Arctic region at the eighth session of the Forum. The Forum urges the board of trustees of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations to give special consideration to applications from indigenous participants from the Arctic region.

13. The Permanent Forum takes note of the report on the International Seminar on Indigenous Peoples and the Environment, organized jointly by the Administration of the Khabarovsk Krai, the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East and the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, with support from the Public Chamber of the Russian Federation, held in Khabarovsk, Russian Federation, in September 2007, and endorses the recommendations contained in the report.

14. The Permanent Forum invites the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food and the Special Rapporteur on the right to development to attend the eighth session of the Forum.

15. The Permanent Forum decides to hold a half-day region-specific discussion on North America at its ninth session in 2010.

16. The Permanent Forum also decides to hold a half-day discussion on indigenous peoples and forests at its ninth session.

III. Draft decisions recommended by the Permanent Forum for adoption by the Economic and Social Council

17. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
International expert group meeting on the implementation of article 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the implementation of article 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and requests that the results of the meeting be reported to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at its eighth session.

Draft decision II
Venue and dates of the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Economic and Social Council decides that the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 18 to 28 May 2009.

Draft decision III
Provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on:
 - (a) Economic and social development;
 - (b) Indigenous women;
 - (c) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.
4. Human rights:
 - (a) Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
 - (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples and other special rapporteurs.
5. Half-day discussion on the Arctic region.
6. Comprehensive dialogue with six United Nations agencies and funds.
7. Future work, including Economic and Social Council issues and emerging issues.
8. Draft agenda for the ninth session of the Permanent Forum.
9. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its eighth session.